

The Watchman and Southron

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1904.

The *Sumter Watchman* was founded in 1850 and the *True Southron* in 1866. The *Watchman and Southron* now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

The trucking industry is crowding out cotton in many sections of country along the Atlantic Coast Line and the farmers are making more clear money by planting vegetables and strawberries than they ever made in cotton. Sumter county is as well adapted to truck as any section in the South, and in time it will be one of the great truck-growing counties of the country, possessing the advantages of the very best railroad connections and quick schedules to the Northern markets; then the people will wonder why they clung to cotton so long.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Columbia, May 24.—The week ending 8 a. m. May 23d had a mean temperature of 71 degrees, the normal for the same period is 74 degrees. The day temperatures were normal, or above; the nights were unseasonable cool, with light frosts in Union county on the 15th and 16th and Greenville county on the 18th, doing no damage. The lowest temperature was 44, the highest was 87 degrees. The relative humidity was unusually low and the sunshine excessive. The winds were generally light westerly.

Showers occurred on the 17th and 18th, with amounts ranging from 1.10 inches at Florence and Lugoff down to trace. In general the northeastern counties had beneficial rainfall; it was light, insufficient or none fell in the north central, northwestern, western, central, southeastern counties and throughout the Savannah valley in which districts the drought is becoming severe.

The weather was favorable for farm-work which is well advanced, and cultivation keeps pace with the needs and growth of field crops, that are free from grass and weeds. There is widespread complaint of the scarcity of laborers, and their unsatisfactory services.

A general, though slow, improvement in corn is indicated for all sections, except on bottom lands, where worms continue to destroy stands. Its color continues yellow in the dry districts. Some corn is yet to plant and some that was replanted is slow in germinating.

Improvement in stands color and growth of cotton is noted in all sections where the rainfall was most copious. In other sections stands continue broken and irregular, with much not up, particularly on stiff, clay and red lands, and replantings. The cool nights are detrimental to the growth and vitality of cotton; some places report plants dying from this cause and the drought. Lice have appeared in Bamberg, Hampton and Marlboro counties. Chopping made slow progress; cultivation is thorough. Sea-island cotton is dwarfed, has poor stands and is suffering for rain.

Tobacco suffers from the cool nights and remains small. Rice needs freshest water for flooding, although its general condition is fairly good; sowing continues. Oats improved in the eastern counties and are poor in other sections, with spring oats practically a failure. Harvest is under way. Wheat looks well and its appearance indicates an average crop. Peaches are ripening and shipments have begun. Minor crops and truck are generally poor, except where the rainfall has been fairly constant and sufficient since planting time.

Hagood Crop Reports.

Hagood, May 24.—Came down to your city this morning via Northwestern Railroad and from the car windows saw crops bordering the same which are growing and in first class condition there being no appearance of grass anywhere. I never pass through the Providence, and Dazell communities that I do not feel impressed with their grand possibilities agriculturally, and I have repeatedly noticed as was the case this morning that strangers when passing through have only flattering remarks, not about the people of whom they know nothing save what they see, but of the country. I suppose they know the man makes the land; if they don't a little trouble will bring that truth home to them. Don't you believe that, Mr. Editor? Then go to Meek Hooley's, T. N. Crosswell's, the Boykin's, W. H. Seale's, Wingate's, Col. Scarborough's and be convinced T. M. Crosswell is the neatest farmer I ever saw; I question whether it pays him. Be that as it may I can't help admiring the trim of things about him. Tell the boys not to take the big head from the above remarks and that I hope they will always be in sight of the Peninsula.

By the way, you made me say what I did not the other day; that those using seed as fertilizer ought to put acid with them two to one when I really said soda.

Things on the Peninsula and around Hagood are moving on smoothly.

Work is scarce enough to make a man hustle. Crops are growing nicely and are in good condition. The small grain is in fine condition and promises much better returns than at first appeared. Mr. Algie Alston, making his maiden effort at farming, from report has by far the best oats in the community. I would remark that his ditches are open, the hedges cut and cultivated. Cotton chopping is about over, save where it had to be ploughed up, and corn is looking well.

Hagood.

W. P. WELDON SUICIDES.

Shoots Himself Through the Head With a Pistol.

Mr. W. P. Weldon of the Providence section committed suicide yesterday afternoon by shooting himself through the head with a 38 calibre revolver. He went out on his back piazza and, holding a mirror to better see what he was doing, he placed the pistol to his forehead and sent the ball directly through his head. The wound was almost in the centre of his forehead and the bullet came out directly opposite.

Mr. Weldon has been in bad health for months and recently became depressed and melancholy.

The inquest was held yesterday afternoon by Magistrate Folk.

The deceased who was generally known as "Long Bill" Weldon to distinguish him from others of the same name in Sumter county, had a host of friends to whom the news of his tragically sad death will be a great shock. The funeral was held at Providence this afternoon.

WEDGEFIELD NEWS LETTER.

Graded School Closing—Personal Mention and Items of Local Interest.

Wedgfield, May 25.—The closing exercises of the Wedgfield graded school will take place on Thursday night. It is regretted that it conflicts with the appointment for the commencement exercises of the Sumter Graded School, but it is too late to change.

We were shocked to hear this afternoon of the death of Mr. W. P. Weldon who committed suicide. He spent the last two years near here, and his numerous friends will regret to learn of the sad fate that befell him.

Miss Mary Mills of Mayesville who has been teaching the McLaurin school has returned home, her school having closed, and against the wishes of the patrons she did not accept the school for another term.

Miss Laura Orr of Charlotte N. C., is visiting her sister Mrs. A. E. Aycock.

Mr. Robert Brohun who has been in failing health for some time, I am sorry to report has had a change for the worst the past few days.

Mr. James J. Whilden is attending court this week as a juror.

Mr. J. G. Strange, son of Mr. Tom Strange, Sr., of this place, who had the misfortune of being knocked off the track by a train in Indiana thereby losing one leg, I am glad to say according to last reports from there, is doing as well as could be expected.

Privateer News Notes.

Privateer, May 23.—As the old man said when his friend invited him to "come and see him," I'll try and endeavor to make an effort to start to go. I'll try and write you a few lines.

The foremost object now is the stand of cotton. In some sections the stands are perfect, while in others they are very bad.

Corn is very small, and stands broken.

There is a great deal of sickness in this section, especially dysentery. I heard an old doctor say years ago, cold nights and warm days never fail to produce the above disease, in May.

We are having large and attentive congregations at Bethel Church under the preaching of our pastor, Rev. T. P. Lide. Occasional.

A MASSACRE IN MINDANAO.

Result of Moro's Hostility to Occupation of Their Country by Americans.

Manilla May 23.—A report has been received here from Camp Overton, on the Island of Mindanao, dated May 15, stating that a massacre had taken place on the 12th instant near Malabang, on the southern coast of Mindanao. Fifty-three Filipino men, women and children, the families of employees of the United States Military Government at Malabang, were surprised at midnight while asleep by the Dato Ali and a band of Moros from the Rio Grande valley, and slaughtered. The chief and his followers escaped before the alarm could be given.

Details of the massacre are meagre. Major Gen. Wood has been in the interior of Mindanao since May 12. Cable communication between Manila and Mindanao is interrupted and the wires are down in the interior of the island. The report of the massacre was received by mail from a correspondent at Camp Overton.

NOTHING BUT RUMORS OF BATTLES

No Reports of Reliable Character Now Coming from Seat of War in the East.

London, May 25.—Rumor is unceasingly busy with the war, but little credence is placed in the varying statements in the absence of official confirmation.

The Daily Mail's correspondent at Simonoseki, Japan, cabling under date of May 24, asserts that active preparations are in progress for the reduction of Port Arthur and that these preparations will be entrusted to a carefully chosen force of veterans forming part of the third army. Very heavy artillery, the correspondent says is being landed on the Liao Tung peninsula.

Dispatches to the Daily Telegraph show that on May 16 the Japanese headquarters were still at Feng Wang Cheng. This the correspondent attributes to the necessity for joint action with the Japanese army which has landed at Pitsewo. They explain that communication has not yet been established between the two Japanese armies.

The Daily Telegraph's New Chwang correspondent declares that Gen. Kuropatkin is determined to check the Japanese at Liao Yang where probably the greatest battle of the war will be fought. He adds that the Japanese land operations against Port Arthur are meeting with little success and that Lieut. Gen. Stoessel and Maj. Gen. Fock continue to make well directed and desperate sorties against the advance of the Japanese, who are fighting with stubborn determination almost unequalled in history. Several hundred Japanese have been killed during the past few days. Japanese reinforcements are arriving daily from Pitsewo and Polandien, according to this correspondent.

The Seoul correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that Kin Chan is being besieged by the Japanese and its surrender is momentarily expected.

It is reported from Brussels that the Russian government is making desperate efforts to buy 30 large steamers from Belgium and Holland to accompany the Baltic fleet as colliers.

Included in a score of rumors is one sent by the Shanghai correspondent of The Morning Post to the effect that the Russians have been defeated near Yin Kau abandoning 30 guns and that Gen. Kuropatkin has been advised by Viceroy Alexieff to retreat to Harbin.

Tie your oats with W. B. Boyle's Binder Twine. 5-11-3t

Drowned in a Tank of Oil.

Port Arthur, Texas, May 23.—William Richard, of New York city, and Fred Trahan, of Gueydan, La., were accidentally drowned in a tank of oil at the Gulf Refining Company's plant today.

Richard, who was working on one of the agitators, became dizzy and toppled over. He succeeded in clutching a small pipe and swinging to it. Trahan witnessed the accident and went to Richard's assistance, but the gas overcame him and he fell into the tank. Richard was soon rendered unconscious and dropped in.

The tanks were large, of several thousand barrels capacity, and it was necessary to draw off all the oil to recover the bodies.

Buy your Binder Twine from W. B. Boyle. 5-1-3t

Raleigh, N. C., May 24.—While crossing the river at Belle's Seine Beach Sunday afternoon, Allen Forbes, his son, Charles, and Henry Arnold were all drowned by the heavily laden canoe sinking in deep water. The point is about three miles below Greenville. The bodies of the three were found today. The senior Forbes and Arnold were drowned in an effort to save young Forbes who was a cripple. Two other men in the canoe swam ashore.

My Twine is here. See me before you buy. W. B. Boyle. 5-11-3t

Savannah, Ga., May 24.—Rufus B. Bullock, the Reconstruction Governor of Georgia, sailed on the steamer Kansas City today for New York whence he will go to his home at Charlestown, R. I., where he has expressed the wish that the end may come. He has been very ill at Atlanta, and it is feared that he would not grow strong enough to take the trip on which he has started. He is 70 years old.

Tie your oats with W. B. Boyle's Binder Twine. 5-11-3t

Knoxville, Tenn., May 24.—While trying to arrest some men charged with illicit distilling of whiskey, Policeman John Webb of Johnson City was shot twice in the stomach by "Buck" Keys, a notorious character. Keys fled and a reward of \$200 has been offered for his arrest. Webb cannot live.

The dusty streets re-suggests the idea that it would be well to try the experiment of using crude petroleum for street sprinkling.

SULLY'S CONDITION SCHEDULED.

Assets and Liabilities of the One-time King of Cotton Market.

New York, May 24.—The schedules filed by Sully & Co. in the United States district court today show firm liabilities of \$3,568,936 and assets of \$4,119,627. Of the indebtedness \$1,369,462 is unsecured. The schedules mention \$50,000 of indebtedness which it is said should be paid by other parties. The same \$50,000 is mentioned in the assets as bills and notes held by the firm.

There is due Sully & Co., in open account \$68,334. It has, the schedules state, stocks and bonds margined in the amount of \$29,100 and unliquidated claims to the amount of \$1,298,250 and \$2,167,490. Deposited in bank the firm has \$445,848 and three memberships in the cotton exchange of New York, valued at \$35,175.

Sully personally has an indebtedness of \$344,039 and assets of \$2,074,429. Of the former \$256,732 is unsecured.

Individual assets consist of real estate \$126,000; cash \$3,684; notes \$1,000; due on accounts \$1,475,820; bonds and stocks \$311,925; property in reversion \$11,000 and \$5,000 which he claims is exempted.

In the case of the other members of the firm the assets far exceed the liabilities.

Buy your Binder Twine from W. B. Boyle. 5-11-3t

Camden, N. J., May 23.—Three persons were killed and ten others were injured, two of them probably fatally by an explosion today in the factory of the Independent Fireworks Company on the outskirts of this city.

Tie your oats with W. B. Boyle's Binder Twine. 5-11-3t

Montevideo, Uruguay May 24.—President Ordenez announces a victory over the revolutionists by the Government troop under Gen. Muniz. Eighty of the revolutionists were killed and two hundred wounded.

COMMENCEMENT AT MAGNOLIA.

The Third Successful Session of the Graded School Closed.

Magnolia, S. C., May 23.—The third term of the Magnolia Graded School was concluded on last Friday night with appropriate recitations. The pupils all acquitted themselves well, and the closest critics could only, at the conclusion, observe "well done."

Miss Farley, one of the assistant teachers, of her own accord will change places, and her place will be filled by Miss Annie Keels, one of Rafting Creek's brightest young ladies. Miss Farley was a satisfactory and very popular teacher.

The programme was carried out without a ripple, and here it is:

A Tribute to Columbia—Annie McIntosh.

Our Country—Ernest McFaddin.

Liberty and Independence—Sam Kirby.

Rodney's Ride—Wilbur Dent.

A Patriot Maid—Emma Clark.

Thirteen States—Chorus.

The Banner Betsy Made—Kittie Boyle.

Our Flag—Maggie Frierson.

Chorus—Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean—Flora, Bell and Marie.

Stand by the Flag—Four Girls.

Hats Off—J. D. Clark.

The 12 Boys.

Southern Feature—Lee to the Rear—J. Sam Palmer.

The Roll Call—Bessie Cribbs.

A Georgia Volunteer—Floyd Cribbs, May, Blanche and Ida.

Little Nan—Eddie Clark.

Song—Sweet be Their Sleep.

A Soldier's Wife—Bessie Stokes.

The Woman in the Homestead—Ophelia Pennington.

Occasional.

THE WORLD'S FAIR AT ST. LOUIS, MO.

Is brought within easy reach by the low rates offered by the

ATLANTIC COAST LINE

Season, Sixty Day and Fifteen Day tickets now on sale.

For rates and other information call on any agent, or write.

H. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager.

W. J. CRAIG, Gen. Passenger Agent.

Wilmington, N. C.

NERVALGINE,

THE GREAT HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA CURE. A sure and prompt cure, every package guaranteed.

For sale by Sumter Drug Co., Olin B. Davis and all Druggists.

May 4—3m.

GINNING MACHINERY

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Made by Liddell

Not only up with the times, but many years ahead, if other systems are modern.

QUALITY —and— QUANTITY

Get Particulars from

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COLUMBIA, S. C.

Please mention this paper.

WANTED—Faithful person to travel for well established house in a few counties, calling on retail merchants and agents. Local territory. Salary \$20.00 per week with expenses additional, all payable in cash each week. Money for expenses advanced. Position permanent. Business successful and rushing. Standard House, 330 Dearborn street, Chicago. Nov. 11

CANDIDATES' CARDS

The announcement cards of candidates will be published in these columns until the Democratic primary for five dollars, payable invariably in advance.

FOR SHERIFF.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for Sheriff of Sumter County, subject to the decision of the Democratic primary election. W. S. DINKINS.

My Twine is here. See me before you buy. W. B. Boyle. 5-11-3t

WANTED—To sell several pairs Berkshire pigs about May 1st. Biltmore blood, pure, and some nearly pure. Also good milch cows, young calves. E. W. Dabbs, Goodwill, S. C. April 20—tf

FURNISHED HOUSE in Asheville, N. C., property of Mr. Robert Brown, near Victoria Inn, will be rented for summer months. Apply to Robt. Brown, Wedgfield, S. C. March 9—2m*

GLENN SPRINGS WATER

Cures Dyspepsia.

J. D. Craig Furniture Co.

Funeral Directors

—AND—

Licensed Embalmers,

No. 202 North Main Street.

With a full and complete stock of supplies, larger than ever before, we are better prepared to render prompt and satisfactory service.

Calls attended promptly

DAY OR NIGHT

Day Phone, 14

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May 25—3m

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We sell all kinds of Insurance, including Fire, Life, Accident and Health, representing only the strongest companies.

We'll appreciate a share of your business.

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LADIES' FINE OXFORDS

There is no article of wearing apparel about which a lady is so particular as

HER FOOTWEAR.

She invariably wants a combination that is hard to obtain,

Comfort and Style.

The line manufactured by

E. P. Reed & Co.,

Of which we are the sole agents, comes nearer measuring up to this requirement than any we know of. For fifteen years we have handled these goods, and, with slight exceptions, each year has shown an increase in their sales.

Some of our lady friends have been persuaded to try other brands, but invariably return to

Their First Love

Admitting that they prefer the "Reed" to any other.

We guarantee absolute satisfaction in every pair of these goods we sell.

Prices, \$2, \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50.

O'DONNELL & COMPANY.